

"PROMPT TO AID IN TIME OF NEED."

CONSTITUTION
AND
BY-LAWS
OF
COLUMBUS FIRE COMPANY, NO. 1.

INSTITUTED FEBRUARY 4, 1813.
INCORPORATED DECEMBER 28, 1848.
REVISED AND ADOPTED MARCH 4, 1892

COLUMBUS, GA.:
DAILY SUN BOOK AND JOB OFFICE PRINT.

1892

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COLUMBUS FIRE COMPANY. NO. 1.

INSTITUTED FEBRUARY 4, 1843.
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1862



AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE THE FIRE COMPANY OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, TO BE KNOWN BY THE NAME AND STYLE OF THE "COLUMBUS FIRE COMPANY, No. 1"

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia in General Assembly met,* That Henry T. Hall, Frederick A. Cairns, George H. Peabody, William S. Chipley, Richard T. Brice, James A. Bradford, Francis Wright, John Arnold, James Greenwood, Anders Andersen, James H. Bishop, Daniel Sparks, William Snow, David Wright, John G. Strupper, Robert H. Green, Moses Simmons, and their associates and successors, be, and the same are hereby incorporated and made a body politic, by the name and style of the "COLUMBUS FIRE COMPANY, No. 1," and shall have power under their corporate name to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any Court of Law and Equity in the State; and to have, exercise and enjoy all the powers herein granted not repugnant to the Constitution of the Confederate States, and of this State.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That said Company shall have full power to make, establish and ordain all such rules, by-laws and ordinances for their own government, as to them may seem necessary and expedient; and the said Company shall have power and be capable of receiving and holding, by purchase, gift, grant, or otherwise, all such lands and tenements, or other real or personal property as may be necessary and convenient for the more effective discharge of the duties of said Company.

SEC. 3. And for the encouragement of said Company—*Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid.* That the members of said Company are hereby declared to be exempt from all services and performance of any militia and patrol duty, and from the payment of poll tax: *Provided,* that said Company shall not

exceed in number at any one time, seventy-five members : and that all laws and parts of laws militating against this act, be, and the same are hereby repealed.

CHARLES J. JENKINS,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

CHARLES DOUGHERTY,

President of the Senate.

Assented to, 28th December, 1843.

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD, Governor.

AN ACT

TO AMEND AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE FIRE COMPANY OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, TO BE KNOWN BY THE NAME AND STYLE OF THE 'COLUMBUS FIRE COMPANY, No. 1,' " ASSENTED TO DECEMBER TWENTY-EIGHTH, ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY-THREE.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That the act entitled "An act to incorporate the Fire Company of the City of Columbus, to be known by the name and style of the 'Columbus Fire Company, No. 1,' " be, and the same is hereby declared to be valid and operative, and that in addition to the privileges and exemptions granted and allowed to the said Company by virtue of said Act, the members of the same are hereby declared to be exempt from the performance of Jury duty, in all cases whatsoever.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That all laws and parts of laws militating against this Act, be, and the same are hereby repealed.

CHARLES J. JENKINS,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

ABSALOM H. CHAPPELL,

President of the Senate.

Assented to, December 10th, 1845.

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD, Governor

CONSTITUTION

OF

COLUMBUS FIRE COMPANY, NO. 1.

PREAMBLE.

WE, whose names are hereunto subscribed, impressed with a sense of the necessity of our efforts to prevent calamities by fire, and that the most effectual means of doing this is by uniting in Companies to maintain a suitable apparatus for that purpose—under this consideration and with the above object in view, we being associated in a body, under the name of the “Columbus Fire Company, No. 1,” do voluntarily bind ourselves to observe the rules and regulations prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws, to wit:

ARTICLE I.

The object of this Company shall be the extinguishment of fires.

ARTICLE II.

The Company shall consist of not exceeding seventy-five white members.

ARTICLE III.

The Company shall provide and maintain in good order an engine, with such quantity of hose as may be deemed necessary. Also hooks and ladders, with suitable apparatus for their use, and a quantity of powder, for the purpose of blowing up buildings when necessary.

ARTICLE IV.

The officers of the Company shall consist of a President, Foreman, First and Second Assistant Foreman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Committee on Accounts; all of whom shall be elected annually by ballot, at the stated meeting in January. The President, Foreman and First Assistant Foreman shall represent the Company in the Board of Control of the Fire Department. In case of death, resignation, or refusal to accept, the Company shall, at its next regular meeting thereafter, elect a successor to either of the above officers.

ARTICLE V.

There shall be a Board of Directors, consisting of four members, who shall be taken in regular rotation from the roll at the stated meetings in January, April, July and October, and who shall serve for three months.

ARTICLE VI.

Stated meetings of the Company shall be held monthly, and special meetings at such times and in such manner as the By-Laws may direct. Ten members shall constitute a quorum, and a majority of those present shall govern, except in any alteration of the By-Laws, or the election or expulsion of a member, when a concurrence of two-thirds of the members present shall be required.

ARTICLE VII.

Elections for members shall be by ballot. Five black balls shall be considered as deciding against the candidate for admission.

ARTICLE VIII.

Each member shall be liable for such fines as the By-Laws shall prescribe, and no resignation of any member shall be accepted until all dues to the Company are settled.

ARTICLE IX.

Spirituous liquors shall not be admitted into the Engine House or Company Room on any occasion.

ARTICLE X.

Any constitutional motion made by a member and seconded, shall be repeated by the President; which may then, and not otherwise, become the subject of discussion.

ARTICLE XI.

No candidate for membership shall be elected, nor any resignation be offered or accepted, but at a stated meeting.

ARTICLE XII.

The uniform of the Company shall consist of a red flannel jacket and black leather belt, a round top black glazed hat, with a front piece, all of uniform appearance, as the badge of the Company, with the initials of the name and No. of the Company marked on the front of the hat.

ARTICLE XIII.

No alterations, additions or amendments to the Constitution can be proposed or enacted, except the same be presented in writing, at a stated meeting, which must lie on the table for one month.

ARTICLE XIV.

The meetings of this Company shall be governed by parliamentary usage.

BY-LAWS.

LAW I.

OF THE PRESIDENT.

SECTION 1. The President shall preside at the meetings of the Company, maintain order during the transaction of business, and put motions to vote when seconded.

SEC. 2. He shall from time to time examine into the state of

the apparatus and other property of the Company, and report the situation thereof at each semi-annual meeting.

SEC. 3. He shall at the written request of five members, call a special meeting of the Company. He shall require of those at whose request the call is made, a written statement of their reasons, which shall be made at the opening of the meeting.

SEC. 4. He shall have power to fine any member during a meeting for disorderly behavior, in a sum not exceeding one dollar for the first offence and two dollars for the second.

SEC. 5. He shall not be entitled to vote on any motion or question, except in case of a tie, and then his vote shall decide.

SEC. 6. He shall not personally make any motion or second one that is made; and if he shall feel disposed to speak on any subject he shall first call some other member to the chair until the subject is disposed of.

SEC. 7. In case of the absence of the Secretary, he shall appoint a Secretary to serve for the occasion, and shall appoint tellers or clerks at elections.

SEC. 8. He shall be exempt from all fines for absence from fires and drills.

SEC. 9. He shall be fined for absence at roll call for meetings twenty-five cents, for absence from a meeting fifty cents, and for neglecting or refusing to perform any duty assigned him one dollar.

LAW II.

OF THE FOREMAN.

SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the Foreman to preside at the meetings of the Company in the absence of the President, and in the absence of both the President and Foreman, then the Assistant Foreman, or such member as the meeting may call to the chair.

SEC. 2. The Foreman shall have power to call out the Company for drill once a month.

SEC. 3. He shall have the entire control and supervision of the Company at all times when in service, but under the direc-

tion of the Chief or other acting Engineer at fires and annual inspections.

SEC. 4. It shall be his duty, in case any part of the engine or apparatus is lost or injured, to use all diligent means to have the same immediately repaired or replaced.

SEC. 5. He shall see that all the members promptly and faithfully perform all the duties required.

SEC. 6. He shall be authorized to draw his warrant on the Treasurer for such sums as may be needed for immediate repairs to the engine or apparatus, and such warrant or warrants shall be presented by the Treasurer to the Company at the meeting next ensuing, and if not approved by the Company, shall be charged to the Foreman.

SEC. 7. He shall be fined for absence from roll call twenty-five cents, for absence from meeting and drill three dollars, and absence from fires two dollars.

LAW III.

OF THE ASSISTANT FOREMEN.

SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the Assistant Foremen to aid and assist the Foreman in the performance of his various duties.

SEC. 2. In the absence of the Foreman, the duties of that office shall devolve upon the First Assistant Foreman, and in absence of the Foreman and First Assistant Foreman the duties of the Foreman shall devolve on the Second Assistant Foreman.

SEC. 3. In the absence of the Foreman, the acting Foreman shall have and exercise all the powers of the Foreman.

LAW IV.

OF THE SECRETARY.

SEC. 1. The Secretary shall have the care and custody of all the books and documents belonging to the Company, and keep a fair and true record of all its transactions.

SEC. 2. His books shall be free for the inspection of the members at all stated and special meetings.

SEC. 3. He shall call the roll at all times that the Company may be called together, noting the absentees, keep a correct

account of the fines incurred, notify members of their election, and furnish new members with a copy of these By-Laws.

SEC. 4. He shall notify the members of all special meetings of the Company when directed by the President, in which case the members shall be notified in the public papers, provided it can be done free of charge.

SEC. 5. He shall once in three months at least, make a statement of all fines and assessments due the Company by each member, and collect the same as far as practicable, and pay the amount over to the Treasurer, less ten per cent. for his commission, taking the Treasurer's receipt for the same.

SEC. 6. He shall also keep a roll of the members in some conspicuous place in the Engine House.

SEC. 7. He shall once in three months notify each member of his indebtedness to the Company, and request him to settle the same, and upon his neglecting so to settle in one month thereafter, he shall report such delinquent to the Company.

SEC. 8. He shall be exempt from the payment of monthly dues, and in his absence the Secretary *pro tem.* shall make a return of the proceedings had, to the Secretary within ten days.

SEC. 9. When unable to attend a meeting of the Company, he shall cause all the necessary books and papers to be carried there.

SEC. 10. On retiring from office he shall deliver up all books and papers, monies and all property in his possession belonging to the Company, to his successor in office, or to a committee appointed to receive the same, within ten days after receiving notice thereof.

SEC. 11. He shall be fined for absence from roll call twenty-five cents; for absence from a Company meeting two dollars; for neglecting to send the necessary books and papers to a meeting one dollar; and for neglecting or refusing to perform any other duty incumbent on him one dollar.

LAW V.

OF THE TREASURER.

SEC. 1. The treasurer shall, before entering on the duties

of his office, give such security as the Company shall deem satisfactory.

SEC. 2. It shall be his duty to collect from the Secretary all moneys belonging to the Company; to keep a correct account of moneys received and paid by him, in a book provided for that purpose.

SEC. 3. He shall have his accounts ready at all times for inspection, and shall produce a statement of his accounts at the stated meetings in January, April, July and October, and oftener if required.

SEC. 4. He shall deliver up all books, papers, moneys, and all property in his possession belonging to the Company, to his successor in office, or to a committee appointed to receive the same, within ten days after receiving notice thereof.

SEC. 5. For neglecting or refusing to perform any of the duties incumbent on him, he shall be fined one dollar.

LAW VI.

OF THE COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS.

SEC. 1. The Committee on Accounts shall meet on the Monday evening previous to each stated meeting and examine all the bills presented against the Company.

SEC. 2. No bill shall be acted upon by the Company until after it has been passed by the Committee on Accounts, and is endorsed by the Chairman.

LAW VII.

OF THE DIRECTORS.

SEC. 1. The Directors shall have charge of the engine and apparatus, and the room appropriated for its reception; have the same repaired when necessary at the expense of the Company; but no alteration shall be made by them unless instructed by the Company.

SEC. 2. They shall report the condition of the engine and apparatus at every stated meeting of the Company; shall attend to the cleaning of the engine and apparatus, and see that it is kept in order; they shall grease the wheels as often as once a

month, and shall have the hose dubbed or greased as often as necessary, at least once in every year. They shall keep four torches trimmed and in order for burning.

SEC. 3. They shall not have any hose which is in order off the reel after sun set.

SEC. 4. Each Director shall be fined for not keeping the engine, hose and apparatus in proper order, and for neglecting any other duty imposed upon them one dollar.

LAW VIII.

OF MEMBERS.

SEC. 1. The election of a member shall not be considered as complete until he has signed the Constitution and By-Laws of the Company, and paid the sum of two dollars and fifty cents as an initiation fee.

SEC. 2. Every member shall within one month after his election equip himself as prescribed by the Constitution. (Art. II.)

SEC. 3. Every member shall pay into the Treasury twenty cents each month.

SEC. 4. If any member elect shall fail to attend the two stated meetings next ensuing his election without a reasonable excuse, his name shall be stricken from the roll.

SEC. 5. Any member leaving the room while the meeting is sitting, without permission from the President, shall be fined as hereinafter specified.

SEC. 6. On an alarm of fire each member shall repair immediately to the Engine House, and assist in the removal and conveyance of the engine and apparatus to the fire, where each member shall take such station as the Foreman may order.

SEC. 7. After a fire shall have been so far extinguished that the Chief, or whoever may be in command, shall deem the services of the Company no longer necessary, all the members present shall then assist in taking up the hose, and in regular order shall return with the engine and apparatus to the Engine House, when after the roll shall have been called, the members may depart; and for a failure to perform any of the duties prescribed in sections six and seven, shall be fined as hereinafter specified.

SEC. 8. Any member who shall attend a drill unequipped, without a reasonable excuse, shall be fined as hereinafter specified.

SEC. 9. Any member failing to pay his fines and dues within one month after being notified by the Secretary, shall be expelled.

SEC. 10. Any member who may be visibly intoxicated, or otherwise behave in any improper manner at a fire or a meeting of the Company, or whilst wearing the badge of the Company, for the first offence shall be fined as hereinafter specified, and for the second be expelled.

SEC. 11. It shall be the duty of every member to report to the President or Foreman the name of any member who violates the Constitution, or does any act that might bring discredit on the Company, and it shall be the duty of the President or Foreman to report the same to the Company.

SEC. 12. Each member shall use his best endeavors to protect the engine and apparatus from injury.

SEC. 13. Every member shall have the right freely to scrutinize the character of a candidate for admission, and any member who shall communicate out of the Company any objection made to a candidate, or divulge the name of any member so objecting, shall be expelled.

SEC. 14. In case the Company shall be called out to attend the funeral of a deceased member, they shall meet at the Engine House, and thence march to the house of said deceased member, and after funeral and burial services are over, return in like regular order to the Engine House, where after roll call, they shall be dismissed.

SEC. 15. No member shall leave the engine or apparatus during a fire or drill, without permission from the Foreman or acting Foreman.

SEC. 16. Any application for membership to this Company must be made in writing, and signed by two members as vouchers.

SEC. 19. No excuse shall be received for absence from meetings and drills, fires or funerals, except sickness or absence

from the city, except in case of not hearing an alarm of fire, which shall be considered an excuse.

SEC. 18. Any member supposing himself unjustly fined for a breach of the rules, may appeal to the Company, whose decision shall be final.

SEC. 19. Any person having resigned his membership, and wishing to be re-admitted into the Company, shall be proposed in the same manner as if he had never been a member.

SEC. 20. The following fines are established by these By-Laws:

For absence from roll call	\$ 10
For absence during meeting and drill.....	2 00
For absence from special or called meetings.....	50
For leaving the room without permission.....	50
For violation of sections six and seven	2 00
For violation of section eight.....	25
For violation of sections ten, (first offence).....	3 00
For absence from a funeral.. ..	1 00
For disobedience of orders during fires or drills	5 00
For lending or using any of the Company's property, except at fires or drills.....	5 00
For absence from a fire.....	1 00

LAW IX.

MEETINGS.

SEC. 1. Stated Meetings of the Company shall be held on the first Tuesday evening of every month, as follows, viz: January, (election) 7 o'clock; February, 7 o'clock; March, 7½ o'clock; April, 7½ o'clock; May, 8 o'clock; June, 8 o'clock; July, 8 o'clock; August, 8 o'clock; September, 7½ o'clock; October, 7½ o'clock; November, 7½ o'clock; December, 7 o'clock.

SEC. 2. When a quorum of the members are present at the time appointed for the meeting, or within fifteen minutes thereafter, the presiding officer shall take the chair, and call the meeting to order, when each member shall take his seat and sit uncovered. The business shall proceed in the following order:

1. Roll Call.
2. Minutes of the preceding meeting read.
3. Report of Directors read.
4. Reports of Committees read.
5. Deferred Business.
6. Election of new members.
7. New Business.
8. Collection of fines and dues.
9. Drill.
10. Roll Call.

SEC. 3. In case of a quorum not being present within half an hour after the appointed time of meeting, those present having noted the absentees, may adjourn

SEC. 4. A member wishing to speak on any subject before the meeting, shall rise and address the presiding officer; nor shall he be interrupted except by a call to order.

SEC. 5. No member shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject.

SEC. 6. No personal reflections or animadversions shall be allowed, and no member shall vote on questions respecting his own conduct.

SEC. 7. The yeas and nays on any question shall be inserted on the Minutes at the request of five members.

SEC. 8. The Reports of all Committees must be in writing, and no verbal reports shall be accepted.

SEC. 9. Notifications for drills shall be published in the city papers, (provided it can be done free of expense to the Company) which shall be deemed sufficient, without individual notice by the Secretary.

OFFICERS:

CHARLES WISE, President.
JAMES D. JOHNSON, Foreman.
R. R. GOETCHIUS, 1st Ass't Foreman.
F. LANDON, 2d Ass't Foreman.
W. H. BRANNON, Secretary.
JAMES D. JOHNSON, Treasurer.

MEMBERS:

R. H. GREENE,	J. BAUMBUSH,
W. J. McALISTER,	* MIKE FREIDENBERG,
J. H. MULFORD,	G. C. WILDING,
D. MULFORD,	S. H. SEIGLE,
J. L. MORTON,	E. M. CLARKE,
J. H. MERRY,	P. H. HARTMAN,
J. S. ARNOLD,	JOHN KELLER,
W. B. LANGDON,	JUL. BRANDS,
N. N. CURTIS,	A. VELATI,
J. M. ESTES,	W. L. SHERMAN,
GEO. HUNGERFORD,	JOHN PORTMAN,
O. DANFORTH,	S. ROTHCHILD,
W. A. DOUGLASS,	PATRICK L. BARRY,
C. C. KLINK,	ABE FREIDENBERG,
J. M. GREENE,	L. MAY,
J. G. BURRUS,	GEORGE HALL,
I. I. MOSES,	JOS. H. SMITH,
GEO. RENFROE,	WM. H. GRISWOLD,
GEO. S. MORTON,	F. W. ACEE,
J. JOSEPH,	L. HARRIS,
P. SULLIVAN,	

